



April 24, 2006

TO: Private Investigator Licensees and Interested Parties

SUBJECT: Proposed Fee Increase - Chapter 18.165 RCW
Washington State Register 06-09-080

FROM: Private Investigator Program, Public Protection Services
Mary Haglund, Program Manager

We would like to share updated information and the possible impact to you regarding the proposed new licensing fees.

Reasons for considering a fee increase:

- Since the Private Investigator program is no longer part of the General Fund, the Department is required to keep a positive fund balance. The program's current fund balance at the end of fiscal year (FY) 2006 is negative about \$15,000.
- The workload growth occurring in the complaint, investigation and disciplinary areas has had the biggest affect on the program's budget in FY 2006.

Biennium	Complaints Received	Complaints sent to Investigations and AAG
2002-2003	28	6
2004-2005	60	81
2006 to date	7	22

- There are currently seventeen active complaint cases either being worked on in investigations or at the AAG office.
- In July 2005, the Washington State Patrol increased their fees for fingerprint background checks from \$25 to \$30.

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Attachment

Proposed effective date is July 1, 2006.

- A licensed Private Investigator agency - renewal fee increase from \$300 to \$350.
- A new Private Investigator agency - application fee increase from \$500 to \$600.
- A licensed Private Investigator individual – renewal fee increase from \$150 to \$175
- A new Private Investigator individual - application fee increase from \$150 to \$200.

We have a solution for the future.

Under the Uniform Regulation Business and Professions Act, the program now has the authority to charge back the cost of an investigation to the respondent in most proven cases of violations. We also have the authority to keep any fines collected from disciplinary actions. We intend to exercise these options so that the professionals within the industry are not fully carrying the cost of regulatory enforcement in the future.

Your comments are welcome.

A hearing on this rule adoption is scheduled for May 30, 2006, at 10:30 a.m. at the Department of Licensing, 405 Black Lake Blvd., Olympia.

You may write to the Department of Licensing at P.O. Box 9649, Olympia, WA 98507-9649. You may also send your written comments by email to Security@dol.wa.gov by fax to (360) 570-7888.

Thank you in advance for your participation. Please feel free to call the Private Investigator Licensing Program if you have any questions or concerns, at (360) 664-6611.

cc: Rule Making File